

HONORING MRS. JOHN W.
WILLIAMS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the unmatched service of Mrs. John W. Williams, who will be honored at the 15th Pastoral Anniversary of the True Love Disciples of Christ Church for her outstanding contributions to the Eastern Star, New Zion, and Memorial Missionary Baptist Churches. Working to foster the development and education of children, Mrs. Williams began teaching at her local Sunday school at the age of sixteen. Receiving her Bachelor's Degree in Education from the University of Arkansas, she dedicated herself to the tutelage of children by working in the Indianapolis public school system for over a decade.

Mrs. Williams has exhibited unwavering commitment to her family and community, standing alongside her husband throughout his career as a Pastor in the Buffalo community. Demonstrating steadfast fortitude throughout times of adversity, she was a pillar of support for her husband during his battles. Finding comfort and strength in Philipians 4:13 ("I can do all things through Christ which strengthened me") she overcame her own battle with breast cancer in 2011, inspiring her community with her tenacity.

Devoted to her work at the Eastern Star, New Zion, and Memorial Missionary Baptist Church in Buffalo, NY above all else, Mrs. Williams has served countless hours working in the parish. Leading workshops to instill Christian values in the community, she has sought to share her passion with others in the ministry, especially the youths. Currently serving as the Supervisor of the Deaconess Board, Director of Christian Education, Office Manager, and Personal Secretary to the Pastor and Youth Director, she involves herself in the many facets of the ministry in order to further their work.

In honor of her accomplishments and dedication, she was nominated in June 2013 for the Leading Ladies Award, given to those in the Christian Community who work to make a difference in their community. On March 16, 2014, she was awarded the First Lady of Faith Award in recognition of her unwavering faith. Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me a few moments to also recognize Mrs. Williams today for her remarkable service in the Buffalo community. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest thanks and admirations to her work and accomplishments.

HONORING GEORGE MUSHRO ON
HIS RETIREMENT AS LOCKPORT
TOWNSHIP CLERK AND TRUSTEE

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor George Mushro, who has retired as Lockport Township Clerk, a position he held for 21 years after serving for 13 years as a Lockport Township Trustee. Mr. Mushro, a

resident of Lockport Township for 56 years, also previously served as chairman of the Will County Democratic Party.

Mr. Mushro was appointed by the Lockport Township Board as a trustee in 1980 and served there until he was elected Clerk in 1993. During his tenure Mr. Mushro helped create a bus service for seniors in Lockport Township after seeing neighboring towns implement similar transportation services. He also introduced early voting because he was adamant in making it as convenient as possible for people to have a voice and have their vote count.

In 2013 Mr. Mushro was awarded the William Z. Ahrends Award for Clerk of the Year, which is awarded by the township clerks of Illinois. He also served on Lockport's Library Board and was a member of the St. Dennis Men's Club, Old Timers Baseball Association, and the Lockport Moose Lodge. Mr. Mushro now plans to spend more time with his family, especially with his grandchildren, in his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating George Mushro, a loyal public servant and an invaluable asset to the people of Lockport Township.

SUSPENSION OF EXIT PERMITS

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in supporting H. Res. 588 and would like to thank Chairman ROYCE for moving this Resolution through the Foreign Affairs Committee in such an expedited manner.

Mr. Speaker, last year the Congolese Government put what is becoming with each passing day a definitive halt on intercountry adoptions by suspending their issuance of exit permits.

The DRC's suspension included stopping those adoptions that were finalized leaving families who had gone through the DRC's own procedure for approving an intercountry adoption and who had obtained the necessary legal clearance, paperwork, and travel visas in a heartbreaking situation.

Mr. Speaker, a family in my District has such a finalized case and with each day that this suspension continues, the emotional toll that has already weighed heavily on them since last year grows.

For this family from Wake Forest, North Carolina, there is an added sense of urgency. As is the case with many children who are awaiting their exit permit, their adopted child is in need of immediate medical care—care that is not being received in the DRC. This only further illustrates the need for quick resolution.

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 588 sends a straightforward message to the Congolese Government and I urge my colleagues to support its passage.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 25, 2014, I was unavoidably absent due to a spousal medical emergency. On rollcall vote No. 355, on H. Res. 641, had I been present, I would have voted "nay." On rollcall vote No. 356, on H. Res. 641, had I been present, I would have voted "nay." On rollcall vote No. 357, on H.R. 6, had I been present, I would have voted "aye." On rollcall vote No. 358, on H.R. 6, had I been present, I would have voted "aye." On rollcall vote No. 359, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

On Thursday, June 26, 2014, I was unavoidably absent due to a spousal medical emergency. On rollcall vote No. 360, on H.R. 4899, had I been present, I would have voted "nay." On rollcall vote No. 361, on H.R. 4899, had I been present, I would have voted "aye." On rollcall vote No. 362, on H.R. 4899, had I been present, I would have voted "aye." On rollcall vote No. 363, on H.R. 4899, had I been present, I would have voted "aye." On rollcall vote No. 364, on H.R. 4899, had I been present, I would have voted "aye." On rollcall vote No. 365, on H.R. 4899, had I been present, I would have voted "nay." On rollcall vote No. 366, on H.R. 4899, had I been present, I would have voted "aye." On rollcall vote No. 367, on H.R. 4899, had I been present, I would have voted "aye." On rollcall vote No. 368, on H.R. 4899, had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

HONORING THE LIFE OF SENATOR
JEREMIAH DENTON

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of a true American hero, Jeremiah Denton.

Jeremiah Andrew Denton, Jr. was born in Mobile, Alabama, on July 15, 1924. The oldest of three brothers, Denton attended Spring Hill College in Mobile before going on to attend the United States Naval Academy. After graduation, Denton began his 34-year naval career, where he eventually attained the rank of rear admiral.

Mr. Speaker, Jeremiah Denton made countless sacrifices throughout his life and military career, but none is greater than his steadfast courage and heroic efforts during the Vietnam War. After less than a month of service in Southeast Asia, Denton's aircraft was shot down, and he was captured on July 18, 1965.

Denton was held as a prisoner of war over the next seven years and seven months, spending time at various prisons across Vietnam, most notably the Hanoi Hilton. During his imprisonment, Denton was often held in solitary confinement, in dark, rodent infested rooms, where he was subjected to intense torture and starvation. Despite these excruciating conditions, Jeremiah Denton did not break.

In fact, Denton inspired his fellow prisoners to not succumb to the Vietnamese torture, but